

Amendments to the Specification

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0017];

[0017.1] FIG. 1A is a schematic front view of one embodiment of a cylindrical rotatable collector showing a perforated surface;

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] The overall arrangement of embodiment 2 includes three spaced successive similar fibrous mat forming structures, 3, 4 and 6. Each of these three structures includes a first melt blow die source 7 which includes spaced die orifices 8, each capable of feeding one of three fiber feed paths of attenuated multiple filter fiber layer portions to one of three longitudinally extending, cylindrical rotatable collectors 11, each of which collectors has a peripheral, perforated collector surface 25 selectively spaced ~~from~~ from and aligned with the first melt blown die source 7 including spaced die orifices 8. FIG. 1A shows the perforated collector surface 25 of cylindrical rotatable collector 11. A suitable motor and gear driven system (now shown) can be provided to rotate each perforated collector 11 in a selected clockwise rotational direction, as shown by the rotational arrow of FIG. 1. It is to be understood that each perforated rotatable collector 11 eventually receives the selected totality of the filter fiber layered portion from its fiber feed path and that each collector 11 can be provided with an appropriate internal

coolant or vacuum source 12, the internal piping and expansive arrangement being disclosed schematically in FIG. 1 and is similar to that as shown in above U.S. Pat. No. 6,159,318 and No. 6,230,775. In an advantageous embodiment of the present Invention collectors 11 can be selectively spaced from die orifices 8 approximately in the range of two (2) to sixty (60) inches and preferably approximately eighteen (18) inches. The polymer volumes and air pressure at the die are appropriately selected for making the particular filter medium.

Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph:

[0034] In a manner similar to that of co-pending application Ser. No. 09/635,310, filed on August 9, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,596,205 issued on July 22, 2003, a direction and external vortically creating force in the form of counter-clockwise rotational, cylindrical drum 16, which is of smaller surface than the clockwise rotational cylindrical collector 11 having perforated surface 25. The drum 16 is gap-spaced a preselected distance from collector 11 so as to exert an external vortically creating force on a preselected portion of the multiple fiber sheet before that portion is reformed on collector 11 to join the remaining portions of the multiple fiber sheet. This action of counter-rotational diverter drum 16 serves to curl the fibers when returned to the rotatable collector 11. It is to be understood that the diverting arrangement as shown, as well as such other diverting arrangements disclosed in the aforementioned co-pending application, can be employed with the collectors as shown and with other collectors which might be added to the overall mat forming structures.

Please replace paragraph [0042] with the following amended paragraph:

[0042] In FIGS. 5 and 6, another embodiment of the present invention can be seen. In this embodiment, spaced mat forming structures 24 and 26 are disclosed. Each mat forming structure includes a melt blown die source 27 with die orifices 28 adapted to have attenuated therefrom fiber feed paths 29 unto spaced, cylindrical, fluid pervious, rotatable cylindrical collectors 31, each collector including coolant or vacuum piping with expanders 32 at the distal end and a perforated surface 35. A triangularly spaced idler roller set 33 is positioned between the two spaced fluid pervious rotatable, cylindrical collectors 31 and an idler roller 34 is positioned below the later of collectors 31 to receive and direct the layered fibrous mat to a following location. In this embodiment of the invention, only two spaced rotatable collectors 31 are disclosed. These perforated collectors 31, like the three spaced perforated collectors 11 of FIG. 1, are shown to rotate in the same direction and to receive fiber feed paths 29 attenuated from orifices 28 in the first cross-sectional quadrant of each collector in a manner similar to the feed paths 9 and collectors 11 arrangement of FIG. 1.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] Referring to FIGS. 7 and 8, still another embodiment of the present invention can be seen. In this embodiment, spaced mat forming structures 41 and 42 can be seen. Each structure

includes a melt blown die source 43 with die orifices 44 serving to have attenuated therefrom fiber feed paths 46 unto spaced cylindrical, fluid pervious rotatable cylindrical collectors 47 having perforated collector surfaces 45, each collector including coolant or vacuum piping with a distal expanders 48--the structure described so far being comparable to that structure of FIGS. 5 and 6 except for a single idler roll 50 being positioned between the spaced rotating collectors 47 and except for the fact that the cylindrical rotatable collectors 47 are rotated in opposite directions from each other. It also is to be noted in this embodiment of the invention that the fiber feed paths 46 are directed to the fourth cross-sectional quadrant of the collectors as distinguished from the first cross-sectional quadrant--as can be seen in FIGS. 1 and 5.

Please replace paragraph [0046] with the following amended paragraph:

[0046] In still another embodiment of the invention as disclosed in FIGS. 9 and 10 of the drawings, mat forming structures 56 and 57 can be seen. Like that of FIG. 7 each structure 56 and 57 includes a melt blown die source 58 with the die orifices 59 serving to have attenuated therefrom fiber feed paths 61 unto spaced cylindrical, fluid pervious, rotatable cylindrical spaced collectors 62, each collector including coolant or vacuum piping with a distal expander 63 in flow communication with perforated surface 65.

Please replace paragraph [0050] with the following amended paragraph:

[0050] FIGS. 11 and 12 show still a further embodiment of the present unified invention FIG. 11 is shown to include melt blown mat forming structures 72 and 73, each of which includes melt blown die source 74 with die orifices 76 serving to have attenuated therefrom fiber feed paths 77 unto spaced, cylindrical, fluid pervious, rotatable cylindrical collector 78 having perforated surfaces 75. As above, for FIG. 9, each collector 78 includes coolant or vacuum piping with a distal expander 79.